GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2024
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN
MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dialogue with Pakistan launched at the SAARC Male Summit in May, 1997 stands suspended on cancelled;

(b) whether the restoration of civilian democratic rule in Pakistan is, for the Indian Government the sine-qua-non for the resumption of dialogue; and

(c) if so, the other conditions that have to be fulfilled for resumption of the dialogue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)
(a)-(c) Government remain committed to building trust and confidence, putting into place a stable structure of cooperation and addressing all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration.We expect Pakistan to demonstrate its adherence to these agreements by abandoning its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and stopping its hostile propaganda against India. These are not pre-conditions but integral parts to any dialogue process.